

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE BUILDING CODE REVIEW BOARD

Minutes of Meeting

May 13, 2005

Attendance:

Robert Clegg, Chairman, Department of Safety

Tyler Carlisle, Board of Engineers, licensed electrical engineer

Jerry Tepe, Board of Architects, licensed architect

Thomas S Lambert, Chief, NH Association of Fire Chiefs, Municipal Fire

John Tuttle, NH Home Builders Association, Architectural designer - residential

Tedd Evans, Board for licensing and regulation of plumbers, licensed master plumber

Wayne A. Richardson, NH Building Officials Association, municipal building official

James Petersen, PE, Board of Engineers, licensed mechanical engineer

Rick Swain, NH Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Assoc., mechanical contractor, business

Michael Santa, CBO, Governor's Commission on Disability, Architectural barrier/free design

Fred Baybutt, Associated General Contractors, building contractor - non-residential bldgs.

Mark Weissflog, NH Electrical Contractors Business Assoc., licensed master electrician

Joel Fisher, Board of Engineers, licensed structural engineer

George Maihos, NH Electricians Board, licenses master electrician

Wes Golomb, Public Utilities Commission, State energy conservation code office

Excused:

Med Kopczynski, NH Municipal Association

Mark Tibbetts, NH Association of Fire Chiefs, municipal volunteer fire chief

Guests:

Marta Modigliani, Attorney, Department of Safety, Office of the Commissioner

John Raymond, Deputy Fire Marshal, Division of Fire Safety

Chairman Clegg declared a quorum and called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Changes to State Fire Code

Kendall Buck from the Home Builders was recognized by the Chair. Mr. Buck spoke in favor of the changes, as it would eliminate the conflict between the Life Safety Code and the building and residential codes. A balcony rail system rail height per IBC 2000 and the rail height for Life Safety has a difference of about 6 inches. Also the conflict with the stair geometry is a concern.

Tom Frangos, a local builder, also from the Home Builders, was recognized by the Chair. Mr. Frangos spoke in favor of the changes.

John Tuttle asked John Raymond if this proposed change would apply to applications within dwelling units of multi-family facilities. Mr. Raymond indicated it currently applied only to one- and two-family construction as it referenced only Chapter 24. Mr. Tuttle said it was the Home Builders' intent to have this apply to the former as well.

John Raymond asked if John Tuttle could get the changes he suggested submitted in writing to him so he can present them to the Fire Marshal. Chairman Clegg accepted a **Table Motion** from Tyler Carlisle to postpone this hearing until next month. **Motion was Seconded** by Wes Golomb. Vote was **Unanimous** to postpone.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Exhibit 14.1 - Adoption of Amendments

There being no opposition to these in the Public Hearing, Chairman Clegg appointed Marta to continue move forward on them.

GENERAL HEARING:

Adoption of meeting minutes from March 11, 2005

Med Kopczynski made the **Motion** to approve the minutes as written. **Motion was Seconded** by Tom Lambert. Vote taken was **Unanimous** - so declared adopted by the Chair.

OLD BUSINESS:

Smart Codes

Mike Santa reported that the sub-committee did not meet this month. However, he has been working, compiling a list of the recent Code changes by the IECC committee, and will bring them to the sub-committee for their review. When they meet they will discuss whether they want to continue to evaluate the 2003 IEBC or whether they want to wait until the 2006 IEBC comes out in another 9 months or so.

State Building Code Web-Site

Marta Modigliani reported that she is waiting for feed-back on the pictures especially the second set sent (emailed to Board members). She is still waiting for a few bio's from Board members. Marta will double check to make sure she has the links to Board Members' agency representation links from all Board members as well for the web-site.

NEW BUSINESS:

Townhouse exemptions IBC and IRC

Med Kopczynski addressed the Board and brought attention to the definition of Townhouse as it is in the IRC. The definition as it is, could lead some individuals to build some rather large buildings under the definition of townhouse, and asked if that was in the best interest of the State or not. It does not limit area - it does have a height limit to 3 stories for townhouse buildings. He said that Townhouses traditionally had in the definition the term 'lot line' but that term is no longer in there. So you could potentially build an unlimited area condominium building or apartment building by calling them a less than 3-story Townhouse.

Mike Santa reported that the NH Building Officials had a seminar recently and discussion was on Townhouses. He has written to the Council to get an official interpretation. Mike said he should be getting it within the next week. This item will be placed on the Agenda for discussion next month.

Update on Legislation

Chairman Clegg reported that HB 642 has been retained in committee. Jerry Tepe said this Board should not be involved in licensing home inspectors, especially since we do not regulate one- and two-family dwellings. SB 193 - was killed. SB 93 is moving forward and looks like it will go forward. SB 198 - was killed. HB 307 - thought that Board members might want to weigh in on this one if they can. HB 469 - is going before the Senate in May - is another one to look at. Chief Lambert asked in HB 469 on disputes who it would designate to hear them. It was discussed and the Bill was more of a guideline for people to use if it passes.

Adoption of Bcr 215 Rules

Med Kopczynski **Moved** for the approval of Bcr 215 Rules that JLCAR just approved. **Motion** was **Seconded** by Jerry Tepe. Vote was **Unanimous** to approve.

Building Safety Week

Mike Santa addressed the Board. Information on building codes, building permits, etc. in the Nashua area is being done by trying to educate people about Codes and Permits, and why they (the permits) should be obtained. Given that this Board is the State Building Code Review Board might we might want to get involved in the future in an effort to promote building codes in the State. Jerry Tepe suggested that this type of thing could be put on the State web-site. Marta will have IT add the link (it was up later that same day - thanks Marta). Med Kopczynski and Fred Baybutt will see about the possibility of getting a Proclamation from the Governor.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There being no **Other Business** to be brought before the Board at this time, Chairman Clegg asked for a Motion to adjourn. Med Kopczynski made the **Motion** to adjourn. **Motion** was duly **Seconded**. Vote was **Unanimous** to adjourn.